PD IEC TR 61282-14:2019

BSI Standards Publication

Fibre optic communication system design guides

Part 14: Determination of the uncertainties of attenuation measurements in fibre plants

bsi.

National foreword

This Published Document is the UK implementation of IEC TR 61282-14:2019. It supersedes PD IEC/TR 61282-14:2016, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee GEL/86/3, Fibre optic systems and active devices.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

Published by BSI Standards Limited 2019

ISBN 978 0 539 01246 0

ICS 33.180.01

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

This Published Document was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 31 July 2019.

Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected

IEC TR 61282-14

Edition 2.0 2019-07

TECHNICAL REPORT

colour inside

Fibre optic communication system design guidelines -
Part 14: Determination of the uncertainties of attenuation measurements in fibre plants

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

ICS 33.180.01

ISBN 978-2-8322-7069-1

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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FIBRE OPTIC COMMUNICATION SYSTEM DESIGN GUIDELINES –

Part 14: Determination of the uncertainties of attenuation measurements in fibre plants

FOREWORD

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The main task of IEC technical committees is to prepare International Standards. However, a technical committee may propose the publication of a technical report when it has collected data of a different kind from that which is normally published as an International Standard, for example "state of the art".

IEC 61282-14, which is a Technical Report, has been prepared by subcommittee 86C: Fibre optic systems and active devices, of IEC technical committee 86: Fibre optics.

This publication contains an attached file titled "Supplemental Data for Section 8" in the form of an Excel spread sheet. This file is intended to be used as a complement and does not form an integral part of the standard.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2016. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

a) in the title: replacement of "guide" by "guidelines";
b) text adaptation to allow both standard grade B and reference grade connectors for termination of test cords;
c) addition of values needed for calculation of uncertainties, when standard grade connectors are used, to Annex D;
d) correction of minor inconsistencies in Equation (18) and after.

The text of this Technical Report is based on the following documents:

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
86C/1572/DTR	86C/1584/RVDTR

Full information on the voting for the approval of this Technical Report can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This document has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts in the IEC 61282 series, published under the general title *Fibre optic communication system design guides*, can be found on the IEC website.

Future standards in this series will carry the new general title as cited above. Titles of existing standards in this series will be updated at the time of the next edition.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "http://webstore.iec.ch" in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

IMPORTANT – The 'colour inside' logo on the cover page of this publication indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this document using a colour printer.

INTRODUCTION

The determination of the uncertainty of every measurement is a key activity, which should be performed by applying dedicated methods as extensively presented in reference documents such as ISO/IEC Guide 98-3:2008, *Guide to the uncertainty of measurement (GUM)*.

This document shows a practical application of these methods for the determination of the measurement uncertainty of the attenuation of fibre optic cabling using optical light sources and power meters as defined in IEC 61280-4-1 and IEC 61280-4-2.

It includes the review of all contributing factors to uncertainty (such as launch conditions, spectral width, stability of source, power meter polarization, resolution, linearity, quality of test cord connectors) to determine the overall measurement uncertainty. This part of IEC 61282 applies to the measurement of single mode or multimode fibres without restrictions to the fibre parameters, including mode field diameter, core diameter and numerical aperture. However, numerical values given in Clause C.2 and typical values given in Annex D are not valid for multimode fibres types A2, A3 and A4.

The list of uncertainties presented in this document is related to this particular application and should be reconsidered if measurement conditions are not compliant to measurement requirements defined by IEC 61280-4-1 and IEC 61280-4-2.

The reference document for general uncertainty calculations is ISO/IEC Guide 98-3:2008, and this document does not intend to replace it; it only represents an example and should be used in conjunction with ISO/IEC Guide 98-3:2008. A brief introduction to the determination of measurement uncertainty according to ISO/IEC Guide 98-3:2008 is given in Annex A.

This document is associated with a calculation spreadsheet (Excel) containing practical calculations.

FIBRE OPTIC COMMUNICATION SYSTEM DESIGN GUIDELINES –

Part 14: Determination of the uncertainties of attenuation measurements in fibre plants

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61282, which is a Technical Report, establishes the detailed analysis and calculation of the uncertainties related to the measurement of the attenuation of both multimode and single mode optical fibre cabling using optical light sources and power meters.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 61280-4-1:2009, *Fibre-optic communication subsystem test procedures – Part 4-1: Installed cable plant – Multimode attenuation measurement*

IEC 61280-4-2:2014, *Fibre-optic communication subsystem test procedures – Part 4-2: Installed cable plant – Single-mode attenuation and optical return loss measurement*

ISO/IEC Guide 98-3:2008, *Uncertainty of measurement – Part 3: Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement* (GUM:1995)

3 Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms

3.1 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at http://www.electropedia.org/
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at http://www.iso.org/obp

3.1.1
attenuation

reduction of optical power induced by transmission through a medium such as cabling

$$L_{dB} = 10 \times \log_{10}(P_{in}/P_{out})$$

where

P_{in} and P_{out} are the power, typically measured in mW, into and out of the cabling

Note 1 to entry: Attenuation is expressed in dB.